# Slide 1: Engaging Community Intelligence To Discern and Disseminate Credible Information

Miriam J. Metzger, Ph.D., and Andrew J. Flanagin, Ph.D.
Professors, Department of Communication
University of California at Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, California

#### **Slide 2: Health Information Seeking Online**

- Information abundance and selective attention
- People select information that is credible
  - Accurate
  - o Relevant
- How do people find and select credible information?
- How might patient-centered health research take advantage of new models of information provision to help people in this pursuit?

#### Slide 3: Means of Credibility Assessment

- Credibility hinges on objective evaluations of information quality
  - Accuracy
  - Objectivity
  - o Recency
  - Comprehensiveness
  - Authority
- And on subjective and heuristic judgments
  - o Relevance
  - o Professionalism
  - o Familiarity
  - Consistency
  - Social endorsement

### Slide 4: Disseminating Relevant and Credible Information

- Pay attention to design and navigation
- Increase visibility of and access to products online
- Invest in branding
- Seek and publicize endorsement
- Take active role in patient-centered research user communities

### Slide 5: Promises of Web 2.0

Source: Eisenberg Center Conference Series 2010, The Prospect for Web 2.0 Technologie for Engagement, Communication and Dissemination in the Era of Patient-Centered Outcomes Research, Effective Health Care Program Web site (http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm)

- Promise of Web 2.0 is collective intelligence via user-generated content (UGC)
  - o Capitalizes on users' diverse knowledge
  - o Increases relevance of information
  - o Increases credibility of information

#### Slide 6: Pitfalls of Web 2.0

- But user-generated content has problems too
  - Popularity may be equated with quality
  - o Groupthink and suppression of unpopular ideas
  - o Cult of amateurs displaces power of experts
  - o Intentional or unintentional manipulation of data

# Slide 7: Realizing the Potential of Web 2.0 to Engage Community Intelligence for Patient-Centered Research

- Establish a Web 2.0 presence to capture UGC
  - o Incorporate social media tools in own Web site
  - Use popular and trusted platforms
- Take advantage of networks of trusted ties
- Consider seeding with credible contributors
- Incentivize user feedback
- Allow for maximum interactivity beyond annotation
- Use moderated forums
- Harvest UGC to learn from patients and clinicians

Source: Eisenberg Center Conference Series 2010, The Prospect for Web 2.0 Technologie for Engagement, Communication and Dissemination in the Era of Patient-Centered Outcomes Research, Effective Health Care Program Web site (http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm)